

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article of Claim 22, wherein the first adhesive ~~means~~ is an adhesive in a striped pattern.
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)
19. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article of Claim 23, wherein the covering sheet comprises a third adhesive ~~means~~ which exhibits an adhesive force to ~~another~~ the other absorbent article when the absorbent article is applied to the other absorbent article, without removing the covering sheet, wherein the adhesive force of the third adhesive ~~means~~ to ~~another~~ the other absorbent article is weaker than the adhesive force of the second adhesive ~~means~~ to the covering sheet.
20. (Canceled)
21. (Canceled)
22. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article for wear inside another absorbent article, comprising:
- a liquid-permeable facing layer which faces a wearer ~~in~~ during use;
  - a liquid-permeable backing layer which faces the ~~another~~ other absorbent article ~~in~~ during use;
  - an absorbent core interposed between the facing layer and the backing layer;
  - first and second adhesives ~~adhesive means~~ disposed on the backing layer, the second adhesive ~~means~~ being located on both sides of the absorbent article lying opposite one another in a widthwise direction thereof, the first adhesive ~~means~~ being located closer to a center of the absorbent article in the widthwise direction thereof than the second adhesive ~~means~~; and
  - a liquid-impermeable covering sheet removably attached to the backing layer through the first and second adhesive ~~means~~ to thereby cover the entire surface of the backing layer opposite the surface adjacent to the core, an adhesive force of the second adhesive ~~means~~

to the covering sheet being stronger than an adhesive force of the first adhesive ~~means~~ to the covering sheet;

wherein when the covering sheet is removed to expose both the first and second adhesive ~~means~~ during use, the first adhesive ~~means~~ exhibits a stronger adhesive force to the other absorbent article than the second adhesive ~~means~~.

23. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article of claim 22, wherein the second adhesive ~~means~~ is a hot-melt adhesive.
24. (Canceled)
25. (Canceled)